Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 198349 TOSEC 090011
ORIGIN SS-15

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 CCO-00 /016 R

66011
DRAFTED BY NEA:JCOLLINS
APPROVED BY NEA:JCOLLINS
S/S-O:KDSCOTT
----------115190 051815Z /44
O 051748Z AUG 78 ZFF5
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO USDEL SECRETARY AIRCRAFT IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 198349 TOSEC 090011

EXDIS

FOLLOWING REPEAT BEIRUT 4484 ACTION SECSTATE TEL AVIV
JERUSALEM INFO USUN AMMAN CAIRO DAMASCUS JIDDA LONDON
QUG 5.

QUOTE S E C R E T BEIRUT 4484

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PBOR MILI LE IS
SUBJ: SOUTH LEBANON: PROPOSED TEXT OF LETTER FROM SECRETARY TO BOUTROS

REF: STATE 197468

1. ALTHOUGH READING TEL AVIV'S 9975 AND 9996, PLUS UNHELPFUL STATEMENT IN THIS MORNING'S PRESS BY PRIMIN HOSS THAT SITUATION OF HADDAD AND SHIDIAC WAS JUST LIKE THAT OF ANYONE ELSE WHO SIDED WITH THE ENEMY, CONVINCES ME WE ARE NOW IN IMPASSE, FOLLOWING IS SUGGESTED TEXT OF LETTER FROM SECRETARY TO BOUTROS.

SECRET

SECRET

I AM ASSUMING THAT WE WILL BE ABLE TO GET ISRAELIS TO MODIFY THEIR POSITION, AN ASSUMPTION I DO NOT MAKE WITH ANY CONFIDENCE.

2. DEAR MR. MINISTER: MY GOVERNMENT IS VERY ANXIOUS THAT A WAY OUT OF THE PRESENT IMPASSE IN SOUTH LEBANON BE FOUND WHICH WILL BE ACCEPTABLE TO BOTH LEBANON AND ISRAEL. DURING MY VISIT TO ISRAEL I HAVE HAD THE OPPORTUNITY TO DISCUSS

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

THE QUESTION IN DEPTH AND HAVE BEEN ASSURED BY MR. BEGIN
THAT HIS GOVERNMENT HAS NO OBJECTION TO THE STATIONING
AT TIBNIN OF THE LEBANESE UNIT NOW BLOCKED AT KAWKABA.

THE IMMEDIATE DIFFICULTIES WITH PASSAGE OF THE FORCE
RELATE TO THE ROUTE CHOSEN AND TO THE STATUS OF MAJOR
HADDAD, WHO HAS BEEN COMMANDING REGULAR LEBANESE FORCES
IN THE MARJAYOUN-QULAYA AREA.

MR. BEGIN HAS IMFORMED ME THAT THE ISRAELI GOVERNMENT
FEELS IT HAS AN OBLIGATION TO THE INHABITANTS OF THE
AREA AND TO MAJOR HADDAD IN PARTICULAR TO SEE TO IT THAT
NOTHING IS DONE TO UPSET PRESENT SECURITY ARRANGEMENTS
IN THAT AREA OR TO PREJUDICE MAJOR HADDAD'S PERSONAL
SAFETY. I BELIEVE THIS SENSE OF OBLIGATION IS GENUINE.
THE PROBLEM IS HOW TO RECONCILE THAT WITH THE NEED TO
REESTABLISH LEBANESE AUTHORITY IN SOUTH LEBANON AS
VISUALIZED IN UNSC RESOLUTION 425.

AFTER DISCUSSION WITH MR. BEGIN, I PROPOSE THE FOLLOW-
ING AS A PRACTICAL ARRANGEMENT FOR THE IMMEDIATE TASK
OF GETTING THE LEBANESE FORCE TO TIBNIN:

(A) THE LEBANESE FORCE WILL ADVANCE BY ROAD FROM
KAWKABA TO TIBNIN BY SERIAL, I.E., IN UNITS SMALLER
THAN 650 MEN, THE TIMING AND COMPOSITION, ETC., TO BE
SECRET

SECRET

WORKED OUT BETWEEN THE PARTIES CONCERNED WITH THE HELP
OF UNIFIL. THE FORCE WILL TAKE WITH IT ALL ITS EQUIPMENT.

(B) THE ROUTE TO BE FOLLOWED WILL BE DECIDED IN
CONSULTATION BETWEEN THE LEBANESE FORCE COMMANDER,
UNIFIL AND THE ISRAELI AUTHORITIES. (IT WILL, HOWEVER
BE BASED ON A FURTHER MOVE TO THE SOUTH, I.E., NOT ON A
RETROGRADE MOVEMENT.)

(C) THE QUESTION OF MAJOR HADDAD'S STATUS WILL
BE SET ASIDE FOR THE TIME BEING. WE WOULD HOPE
THAT THIS ISSUE COULD BE SETTLED BY MUTUAL AGREEMENT
THROUGH DIRECT CONTACTS BETWEEN THE PARTIES CONCERNED.

I AM WELL AWARE OF THE POLITICAL IMPORTANCE TO YOUR
GOVERNMENT OF A SETTLEMENT OF THE HADDAD ISSUE NOW. AFTER
DISCUSSING POSSIBILITIES HERE, HOWEVER, I AM CONVINCED
THAT THE COMPROMISE DESCRIBED ABOVE IS THE BEST WE ARE
GOING TO BE ABLE TO REACH AT THIS POINT. I WOULD APPRECIATE
YOUR DISCUSSING THIS WITH YOUR GOVERNMENT AND INFORMING
AMBASSADOR PARKER WHETHER IT IS ACCEPTABLE.

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

PLEASE BE ASSURED, MR. MINISTER, OF MY HIGHEST REGARDS,

SINCERELY,
CYRUS VANCE.

3. COMMENT: THREE POINTS ARE ROUGH OUTLINE OF WHAT I THINK GOL MIGHT RPT MIGHT ACCEPT. WORDING REGARDING COMPOSITION OF UNITS ETC., IN POINT (A) IS NOT TOO IMPORTANT HERE BECAUSE PRINCIPLE IS ACCEPTABLE TO GOL. I CHANGED ORIGINAL FORMULATION TO ONE LESS DETAILED BECAUSE I GATHER MY DETAILS (NOT BOUTROS'S) GAVE EITHER TEL AVIV OR DEPARTMENT TROUBLE. THE MORE SPECIFIC WE CAN BE, HOWEVER, THE MORE CONCRETE OUR PROPOSAL WILL LOOK TO LEBANESE AND THE EASIER IT WILL BE TO AVOID QUIBBLING WHEN
SECRET

SECRET

IT COMES TO IMPLEMENTATION. IF WE COULD AT THIS TIME GET TOP ISRAELIS TO AGREE TO, SAY, FIVE SERIALS OF 130 MEN EACH (OR TEN OF 65 OR WHATEVER) IT WOULD MAKE IT MORE DIFFICULT FOR HADDAD OR BENGAL TO PUT A SPOKE IN WHEELS LATER.

4. REGARDING POINT (B) I AM VERY NERVOUS ABOUT THOSE ROADS DRAPER IS TALKING ABOUT THAT DO NOT APPEAR ON ANY MAP. I INSTINCTIVELY DISTRUST SUCH VAGUE ARRANGEMENTS AND WE ARE ASKING FOR TROUBLE BY LEAVING THIS QUESTION OPEN. HERE IS ANOTHER POINT TO QUIBBLE AND DELAY OVER. HADDAD AND BENGAL COULD STRETCH TALKS ON THIS OUT FOR A COUPLE OF WEEKS OR MONTHS. I THINK WE SHOULD SPECIFY A ROUTE AND NOT RELY ON UNIFIL AND THE PARTIES ON THE GROUND TO WORK IT OUT. EXPOSURE TO THE DELIBERATIONS AND FRUSTRATIONS OF THE MIXED ARMISTICE COMMISSION OVER 27 YEARS, AND MY OBSERVATIONS OF THE PACE AND EXPERTISE OF UNIFIL, GIVE ME NO CONFIDENCE WHATSOEVER THAT THIS CAN BE WORKED OUT ON THE GROUND. PLEASE DRAW THAT LINE IN JERUSALEM, IF YOU CAN, AND DON'T LEAVE IT TO THE AMATEURS AT KAWKABA. I DON'T CARE WHERE YOU DRAW IT, BUT DRAW IT.

5. AS FOR POINT (C), HERE TOO WE ARE STORING UP TROUBLE FOR OURSELVES BY NOT RESOLVING THE ISSUE AT THE TOP. I UNDERSTAND THAT IT CANNOT BE RESOLVED NOW, BUT LEBANESE ARE GOING TO BE BUYING A PIG IN A POKE AND HADDAD IS STILL GOING TO BE WITH US A YEAR FROM NOW. THE LEBANESE UNDER-STAND THIS TOO AND MAY WELL DECIDE THE GAME IS NOT WORTH THE CANDLE.

6. WE HAVE BEGUN A PROCESS WITH NO CLEAR IDEA OF WHAT THE END IS. WE HAVE BEEN CONCENTRATING ON RENEWAL OF
SECRET

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

THE UNIFIL MANDATE AND THE SUCCESS OF 425. WE HAVE
PERSUADED THE LEBANESE TO MOVE AND NOW THEY ARE STUCK,
LARGELY BECAUSE OF AN INTELLIGENCE FAILURE ON THEIR PART.
WHILE WE MUST CONCENTRATE NOW ON HELPING THEM OUT OF THEIR
PRESENT MESS, WE REALLY SHOULD LOOK MORE DEEPLY INTO WHAT WE
THINK WILL HAPPEN WHEN THE LEBANESE FORCE FINALLY GETS TO TIBNIN,
AND HOW THE PROBLEM OF THE ENCLAVES AND THE GOOD FENCE CAN
BE SETTLED. THE SEAT OF MY PANTS IS WEARING THIN
FROM TOO MUCH FLYING BY IT.
PARKER UNQUOTE CHRISTOPHER

NNN

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TOSEC, TEXT, TROOP DEPLOYMENT, MILITARY PERSONNEL, DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 05 aug 1978
Decaption Date: 20 Mar 2014
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE198349
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: JCOLLINS
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780321-1106
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780894/aaaadamc.tel
Line Count: 185
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 0e781d68-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN SS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: 78 STATE 197468
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 27 jun 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1824848
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SOUTH LEBANON: PROPOSED TEXT OF LETTER FROM SECRETARY TO BOUTROS
TAGS: PBOR, MILI, PSDC, LE, IS, US, (VANCE, CYRUS R), (BOUTROS, FUAD), (HADDAD, SAAD)
To: SECRETARY AIRCRAFT
Type: TE
vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/0e781d68-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014